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House Resolution 1675

By: Representative Floyd of the 99th

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending Barbara and Richard Gay; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Barbara and Richard Gay were united in love and marriage in 1957 and have
- 3 devoted their time, talents, and energy to improving the lives of others through their
- 4 leadership and generosity; and
- 5 WHEREAS, Mr. Gay served as a guardian of this nation's freedom and liberty with the
- 6 United States Army, demonstrating great bravery and courage during the Korean and
- 7 Vietnam wars and retiring from service as a lieutenant colonel in 1971; and
- 8 WHEREAS, on August 2, 1974, Mr. and Mrs. Gay became operators of the Helendorf River
- 9 Inn, and their dedication to the City of Helen over the past three decades is representative of
- 10 the strength and persistence that personifies Helen and its residents; and
- 11 WHEREAS, devoted to improving tourism in Helen, the Gays have represented the city and
- 12 region in numerous travel shows, attended seminars and training session on the tourism
- 13 industry, and served several terms on the board of directors for the Helen Chamber of
- 14 Commerce; and
- WHEREAS, Mrs. Gay has held leadership positions with the Helen Dining and Lodging
- 16 Association, the Helen/White County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Georgia Mountain
- 17 Travel Association, and the Georgia Hospitality and Travel Association; and
- 18 WHEREAS, Mr. Gay served with the Helen Volunteer Fire Department from 1979 to 1993,
- 19 helping to organize the department, keep property insurance costs low, and serving as Alpine
- Helen's first fire chief in the 1970's; and
- 21 WHEREAS, the Gays have served as civic stewards, with Mr. Gay participating in the
- 22 Knights of Columbus and the Clarkesville Lions Club and Mrs. Gay in the Mayflower

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23 Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, the National Rifle Association, and the

- 24 Soque Garden Club; and
- 25 WHEREAS, ballooning pioneers and enthusiasts, the Gays were honored by the Balloon
- 26 Federation of America for contributions to the sport and were recognized by the Helen Arts
- 27 & Heritage Council for their 36 year sponsorship of the annual Helen to the Atlantic Hot Air
- 28 Balloon Race; and
- 29 WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Gay's many outstanding achievements and contributions to the
- 30 City of Helen are worthy of recognition.
- 31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
- 32 the members of this body commend Barbara and Richard Gay for their efficient, effective,
- 33 unselfish, and dedicated service to others.
- 34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
- and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Mr. and Mrs. Gay.